Increase in the Prices of Oil Product

645. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:
DR. B.B. DUTTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to increase the prices of subsidised oil products by 15% every year, to bring the domestic prices to the international level;

(b) if so, what are the reasons to phase out subsidy for the oil products;

(c) whether India, Oil Corporation is authorised to declare this policy of reducing the subsidy which affects the poor; and

(d) the details of the statement made by the Finance Director, Indian Oil Corporation during an oil refining conference in Singapore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Clearance of power projects by the State Governments

646. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided that the State Governments would be allowed to clear power projects of any size and cost without approval of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and the Ministry of Environment and Forests;

(b) if so, to what extent role of the Central Government would be minimised; and

(c) what are guidelines, if any, given and proposed to be given by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) The Government have decided that a scheme shall be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for its concurrence only if the capital expenditure exeeds Rupees One thousand crores for a scheme for a generating station prepared by a Generating Company and selected through a process of competitive bidding and Rupees One hundred crores in relation to all other schemes. The Government is also exploring possibilities of delegating certain powers at the state level for clearances concerning Ministry of Environment and Forests relating to power projects. The matter is currently under

Deficit of resources for the 9th Five Year Plan

647. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge deficit of resources before the Planning Commission in formulation of the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what measures are proposed to be taken by Government to meet the requirement;

(c) whether Government are considering to cut down the budgets of the States which have either not completed their projects or have not utilised the funds according to their Plans during the last financial year; and

(d) if so, what are the State-wise details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The exercise to assess the Financial Resources for the Ninth Five Year Plan is currently going on. The Ninth Plan has not been finalized. Hence it is too early to make an assessment of deficiency in the financial resources for the Ninth Plan.